

T H E  
**Christian History;**

Containing Accounts of the Propagation and Revival  
of Religion in *England Scotland and America.*

Saturday NOVEMBER 19. 1743. § N°. 38.

*Mr. McCulloch's Letter finished.*

**M**uch of the LORD's gracious Presence was enjoy'd at these Meetings for Prayer, Returns of Mercy were vouchsa'd in Part, and are still further expected and hoped for.

This second Sacrament Occasion did indeed much excel the former, not only in the Number of Ministers, People and Communicants, but what is the main Thing, in a much greater Measure of the Power and special Presence of GOD, in the Observation and sensible Experience of Multitudes that were attending.

The Ministers that assisted at this Solemnity were Mr. Whitefield, Mr. Webster from Edinburgh, Mr. M'Laurin and Mr. Gillies from Glasgow, Mr. Robe from Killyth, Mr. Currie from Kinglassie, Mr. M'Knight from Irvin, Mr. Bonner from Torphichen, Mr. Hamilton from Douglass, and three of the neighbouring Ministers, viz. Mr. Henderson from Blantyre, Mr. Maxwell from Rutherglen, and Mr. Adam from Cathcart. All of them appear'd to be very much assist'd in their Work. Four of them preach'd on the Fast-day, four on Saturday, on Sabbath I cannot well tell how many, and five on Monday, on which last Day it was computed that about twenty four Ministers and Preachers were present. Old Mr. Bonner, tho' so frail that he took three Days to ride 18 Miles from Torphichen to Cambuslang, yet his Heart was so set upon coming here, that he could by no Means stay away, and when he was help'd up to the Tent, preach'd three Times with great Life; and return'd with much Satisfaction and Joy. Mr. Whitefield's Sermons on Saturday, Sabbath, and Monday, were attended with much Power, particularly on Sabbath Night about tea, and that on Mon-

day, several crying out, and a very great but decent Weeping and Mourning was observable thro' the Auditory. On Sabbath Evening while he was serving some Tables, he appear'd to be so filled with the Love of God, as to be in a Kind of Extasy or Transport, and communicated with much of that blessed Frame. Time would fail me to speak of the Evidences of the Power of God coming along with the rest of the Assistants : And I am in Part prevented by what is noticed by Mr. Robe in his *Narrative.* \*

The Number of People that were there on Saturday and Monday, was very considerable. But the Number present at the three Tents on the Lord's-Day was so great, that, so far as I can hear, none ever saw the like since the Revolution in Scotland, or even any where else, at any Sacrament Occasion : Some have called them *fifty Thousand*; some *forty Thousand*; the lowest Estimate I hear of, with which Mr. Whitefield agrees, who has been much us'd to great Multitudes, and forming a Judgment of their Number, makes them to have been upwards of *thirty Thousand*.

The Number of Communicants appears to have been about *three Thousand*. And some worthy of Credit, and that had proper Opportunities to know, gave it as their Opinion, that there was such a blessed Frame fell upon the People, that if there had been Access to get Tokens, there would have been a *Thousand* more Communicants than what were.

This vast Concourse of People, you may easily imagine, came not only from the City of *Glasgow*, and other Places near by, but from many Places at a considerable Distance : It was reckoned there were 200 Communicants from *Edinburgh*, 200 from *Kilmarnock*, 100 from *Irvin*, 100 from *Stewarton*. It was observed, That there were some from *England* and *Ireland* here at this Occasion : A considerable Number of *Quakers* were Hearers : A great many of those that had formerly been *Seceders* were hearing the Word, and several of them were Communicants. A Youth that has a near View to the Ministry, and had been for some time under great Temptations, that God's Presence was no more to be enjoy'd, either in the Church, or among the *Seceders*, communicated here, and returned with great Joy, full of the Love of God.

\* See Page 31 of our History.

There was a great deal of outward Decency and Regularity observable about the Tables. Publick Worship began on the Lord's-Day just at half past Eight in the Morning. My Action Sermon, I think, was reasonably short: The third or fourth Table was a serving at 12 o'Clock: And the 1<sup>st</sup> Table was a serving about Sun-set, when that was done, the Work was clos'd with a few Words of Exhortation Prayer and Praise, the Precenter having so much Day-Light as to let him see to read four Lines of a *Psalm*. The Tables were all serv'd in the open Air, beside the Tent, below the *Brae*: The Day was temperate: No Wind or Rain in the least to disturb. Several Persons of considerable Rank and Distinction who were Elders, most chearfully assisted our Elders in serving the Tables.

But what was most remarkable, was the spiritual Glory of this Solemnity, I mean the gracious and sensible Presence of GOD. Not a few were awakened to a Sense of Sin, and their loft and perishing Condition without a SAVIOUR. Others had their Bands loos'd, and were brought into the marvellous Liberty of the Sons of GOD. Many of God's dear Children have declared, That it was a happy Time to their Souls, wherein they were abundantly satisfied with the Goodnes of GOD in his Ordinances, and filled with all Joy and Peace in believing. I have seen a Letter from Edinburgh, the Writer of which says, "That having talk'd with many Christians in that City, who had been here at this Sacrament, they all own'd, That GOD had dealt bountifully with their Souls at this Occasion." Some that attended here, declar'd, That they would not for a World have been absent from this Solemnity. Others cry'd, Now let thy Servants depart in Peace, from this Place, since our Eyes have seen thy Salvation here. Others wishing, If it were the Will of GOD, to die where they were attending GOD in his Ordinances, without ever returning again to the World or their Friends, that they might be with CHRIST in Heaven, as that which is incomparably best of all.

I thought it my Duty to offer thefe few Hints concerning this Solemnity, and to record the Memory of GOD's great Goodnes to many Souls at that Occasion. May our exalted REDEEMER still go on from conquering to conquer, 'till the whole Earth be filled with his Glory. Amen. to let it be. In him I am Your's, &c.

William M'Culloch.

*A Continuation of Mr. Robe's NARRATIVE.*

*Having in some former Numbers given our Readers Mr. ROBE's Narrative of the extraordinary Work at Kilsyth from its Beginning to May 19th 1742. (See Christian History p. 26.) as also the four first Articles, we now proceed to present them with the Continuation of this History to July 19th following, to which will be added his Account of the most material Passages in the Progress of this Work at KILSYTH and many other Places since, with Attestations from several Ministers: reserving to be published hereafter the fifth Article, wherein he gives an Account of some unusual and peculiar Effects which spiritual Operations have had on the Bodies of a few; with an Appendix, consisting of Instances of Persons in former Times affected in their Bodies while under divine Influence; to which we propose to subjoin a further Collection of our own to the same Purpose. The Continuation mentioned, consists of Extracts of Letters from the Rev. Mr. Robe to the Rev. Mr. McLaurin, an eminent Minister in Glasgow, which with Mr. McLaurin's Introduction, now follow,*

*Mr. McLaurin's Introduction.*

When this good Work began I could with the more Freedom urge Mr. Robe, however hurried, to favour me with Accounts from Time to Time of its Progress; because such Intelligence would be very acceptable and edifying to many others, particularly in this City. And tho' it could not be expected that Letters written by one having so much desirable Work on his Hands should be very full and particular; or that one writing to a Friend, and in such Haste, should have such Regard to Stile, as in Things intended for publick View: Yet as these Letters give a pleasant View of the gradual Progress of that Work, together with several remarkable Particulars; and also of the warm Impressions which a Train of so extraordinary and desireable Events behov'd to make on the Mind of one, by Duty and Inclination, so deeply interested; at or near the very Time that they happen'd, or while they were yet fresh in his Memory; expref'd in the natural Manner usual between intimate Correspondents: For these Reasons I reckon it no small Favour, that I have succeeded in taking Pains to obtain his Consent, that Extracts of these Letters should be published.

*Extracts*

*Extracts of Letters from Mr. ROBE from May 15 to July 19. 1742. which the Author when prevailed on to yield to the Publication of them, refer'd so intirely to his Correspondent, as to the Choice of the Excerpts to be published, that he only, and not Mr. Robe is accountable, for the Choice made.*

Kilsyth, Saturday May 15. 1742.

After speaking of what happen'd in his Journey from *Cambslang*, an Account of which is publish'd in this *Narrative* Page 23. *The LORD is shooting his Arrows fast; Praise to him that they are not Arrows of Destruction as we deserve: May his holy Arm get him the Victory over Satan in these wounded Souls.*

He is come to this Country-side! There was a great Day of Power at *Calder Tuesday* last. We had a good Day Sabbath last: I now know of six that came under Convictions that Day; and there may be others. O cry to him for a plentiful Effusion of his Spirit, and for much Zeal, Skill and Humility, with Singleness to -- me. O if I could praise and magnify him; I would fain do it: Pray that I may be kept out of my own Eye, and that I may have **CHRIST** and the *good of Souls* only in Sight.---

*Postscript*, Sabbath May 16th. This has been indeed one of the Days of the Son of Man. The KING OF GLORY hath shot his Arrows very thick into the Hearts of his Enemies, not for their Destruction, but to fall under him. There was a great Cry of awaken'd Sinners this Day: There have been seven & twenty awakened this Day, all of them under as great Agonies as we conceive those of the 28 of the *A&S*; besides others that were carried away by their Friends, whose Names I have not yet: I have dealt with them all this Evening, as also Mr. *Ogbterson* for a while, having sent for him. --- O Praise him, and pray much for us, and tell every Body to Praise him for his Mercy to us, and that he will stay a long Time with us after this Sort. --- There are no fewer than five in --- Family under deep Distress: --- two Daughters and three Servants. O 'tis a gracious Visit: He hath wounded and will heal. Write this good News to Mr--- O let Heaven and Earth praise him: I expect you and am, &c.

Sabbath

Sabbath May 23.

The Lord hath been graciously present this Day : His Spirit yet poured forth from on high, notwithstanding of our Stupidity and Ingratitude : There was an uncommon Concern upon the Congregation and Attendance unto the Word : There are *seven* awakened Persons known to us this Evening that were not known before : Some *newly* awaken'd, *viz.* this Day : Others whose Convictions begun last Sabbath, brought to a distressing and complaining Height this Day : I am perswaded there are many more of whom I expect to hear to Morrow. There were *two others* that came to us upon Saturday after you left us ; both of them some Years *above forty*, one the same Day above *forty* ; another betwixt *sixty* and *seventy*. I rejoice at the Lord's coming near old Sinners.

Friday May 28th.

I have the great Pleasure to tell you that the **LORD** yet continues to pour forth his good and free **SPIRIT** upon unworthy us : Wednesday last the Congregation was much moved : Mr.--- and Mr.--- and I preached : The Awakened were added to : My List amounts to *sixteen*, of which there are about *forty eight* in *this Parish* : besides *seven* I am assur'd of, *two* of which belong to *Denny*, *two* to *Airth* or *Larbert*, *two* to *Cumbernauld*, and *one* to *this Parish* : And several others we presume are unknown to us. Some are come to solid Relief ; others I hope are not far from it.

Wednesday June 2d.

I have just Time to write you this. M.---preached with me to Day : There was a considerable Multitude : There appeared a Concern among the People, tho' no Outcry. I wait for the Fruits, which I hope a sovereignly gracious God will shew in his own Time : I have some newly awaken'd since I wrote to you, besides others I hear of : *This Night* there were three with me who never spoke to me before : *N. B.* They keep their Distress as long as they can hold : There was *another* with me *yesterday* who was new ; and *one* this Morning awaken'd *last Lord's Day*.

Tuesday June 8. I have just Time to write this to you, having scarce a Moments spare Time, the Distress'd or those who are come to Relief coming continually to me. The Parish-List is now *sixty*. I can give no distinct Account of those awakened here, in other Congregations. The Lord

is continuing graciously with us. *Four or five new ones have been with me since Sabbath last. Several are come to solid Relief. I had one this Day filled with inexpressible Joy.---I am wonderfully strengthened, have great Pleasure and made unwearied. O praise him who does it ;--- Pray for a more plentiful Out-pouring of the HOLY SPIRIT.*

Wednesday June 9th. We have had a glorious Day this Day. *Many are added to the awakened, either altogether new, or those who were formerly slightly touch'd are deeply awaken'd : There are eight I am certainly inform'd of ; besides a great many others that I judge pretty probable ; five of the first are in this Parish : There was a general Concern in the Congregation. I find when I am weakest and have least Expectation from my Sermon, the LORD shews himself most. I preached from John xvi. 11. I was far from being pleased with the Composure. Mr.---'s Helper preached with me from Matth. 11.28. a good Sermon. I am much straitned for Help ; but the LORD stands by me ; Blessed be he, and he will do it. Receive a third Journal. I have a beautiful one, of one who was inexpressibly filled with the Love of CHRIST shed abroad in her Heart --- and they tell me continues yet overcome with it. Some old Christians are getting wonderful Revivings, and Manifestations of the Love of GOD.*

Friday June 11th. Because I know what Joy and Thankfulness it gives you to hear of our dear LORD's appearing in his Glory and Majesty, in conquering his Enemies to himself ; I embrace the Opportunity to write to you that this hath been a good Week ; one of the best I ever saw, tho' of the greatest Labour ; yet of the greatest Pleasure. I had a Closet full of little Ones yesternight, making a pleasant Noise and Outcry for CHRIST ; and two of the youngest, one of them but ten, fainting, and so distress'd, they could scarce go home. I cannot write unto you the Wonders I saw : One of eleven crying out she was sick of Sin, and crying out with Hands uplifted to Heaven : When I told her that if she were willing to take CHRIST he would heal her ; she replied, ' I am willing with all my Heart, and from the bottom of my Heart to take him ; ' I bad her wait with Patience, and told she minded the fortieth Psalm : She noted over the first twelve Lines with great Calmness : I hear they have been very distract'd last Night and this Day. I would fain hope that

that Relief may not be very far from her. O pray for the poor young Babes : --- Tells me just now she is come to Joy and Peace in believing, for which I beg you'l Praise the LORD, and employ others to do it. Poor little--- speaks to the Distress'd like her self.--- This is---A pleasant Countryside--be it was. I wish you was here. Wednesday was a wonderful Day, when we were afraid the Work was like to stop : There have been ten new Ones belonging to this Congregation since last Lord's-Day ; so that if I count right they are about or near seventy ; besides those who belong to other Congregations, of which I can have no Account.

Thursday June 17th. Receive a fourth *Journal*, which I have with much Difficulty, for want of Time, got extracted from my Book.--- It concerns the Woman overcome with Love. She uttered many Things which I could not take down, and I seldom insert any Thing from my Memory : The Girl was with me this Day, and continues in the same good Frame ; only her Tears are dried up, and she hath got a humble Joy in her Face. There is an elder Christian in her Neighbourhood, who hath got a considerable Reviving, and marvellous Manifestations of the Love of JESUSCHRIST, shewing themselves to be genuine by their Effects.

From Lord's Day was seven Nights the KING of Kings has been riding gloriously upon the white Horse, shooting his Arrows thick into the Hearts of his Enemies ; making them sensible of their evil State of Unbelief, making them to cry out for fear of the LORD, and the Glory of his Majesty, at the same Time subduing others to himself. We had twelve awakened last Week belonging to the Parish, fifteen Sabbath last, four whereof were Strangers belonging to Cumbernauld, Campsy and Kirkintilloch : Tuesday we had fifteen and one Stranger ; and this Day I had two who were among the first, but never came to me until this Day ; which make in all belonging to the Parish, since Sabbath before the last, forty. I make no doubt, but there are a great many Strangers besides not known to me. I have also had some with me who are come I hope to solid Relief. Tho' I am continually employ'd, yet the LORD gives such bodily Strength as I am not much wearied ; and is not wanting otherwise. He gives uncommon Strength for uncommon Service : Which I acknowledge to his Glory ; and beg that you and others may help me to Praise him for it.

(To be continued.)